

Cross Point Emmaus

Cross Point Newsletter©
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MMXX III Number IV

August 1, 2023

AUGUST GATHERING!!

Saturday, August 12, 2023

12:00pm

Madill FUMC

301 Taliaferro St, Madill, OK 73446

This Gathering occurs during a Team Training day. The Team and Community will fellowship with a Baked Potato Lunch together.

Immediately after, the Community will worship and partake in Communion, while the Team returns to training.

Please bring a salad, fruit dish, or drink.

TABLE AGAPE

In less than 7 weeks we will be having our fall walks! You know what that means? It's time to get your Table Agape items ready. I am excited to see how God is working through our community! I have been so blessed to see how you all respond from the heart! God will bless each item given! Thank you all!

De Colores!
Terry Pierson

CONFERENCE ROOM TRAININGS ARE UNDERWAY!

By Jay and Melissa Grace, Board Representatives for Walks 113,114

Walk Lay Directors, Troy Williams (#113) and Kenna Johnson (#114), have assembled the conference room teams, following the team selection process – which included a lot of prayer, two meetings by the Team Selection Committee, and Cross Point Emmaus Board approval of the recommendations given by the Lay Directors and the committee. Some members have had to withdraw after agreeing to work and the Lay Directors have worked diligently to continue completing the teams.

Two of the four Cross Point Emmaus trainings have been completed, as of Saturday, July 29. We are so grateful to the two host churches, which have opened up their doors to our Emmaus community – Asbury Methodist of Ardmore on July 22 and First Christian Church of Healdton on July 29. Church support for the Emmaus ministry is important to continuing in this ministry of developing disciples and leaders in churches.

Worship, before the trainings, begins with both music teams leading praise and worship, followed by a devotional given by one of the spiritual directors. The worship services close with Holy Communion and announcements. Also, board training was held during the worship service at the first training.

Team trainings have been going well and the team is coming together as they begin to serve jointly for this set of walks. It is hard to believe that we are already halfway through the training process and it is amazing to see how God is forming these teams, talks, relationships, and bringing these teams and walks in union.

We will continue with a training on August 12 that includes a Gathering of the Community at 12:00pm at the Madill First Methodist Church. This includes fellowship with the teams over a Baked Potato Lunch (everyone bring a salad, fruit, or drink). Worship will then follow for the community members. Then, September 9 is another Conference Room training at 9:00 a.m., the Hands and Feet training at 3:00 p.m., followed by the Commissioning Service at 4:00 p.m. The Cross Point Emmaus Community will be gathered for the Commissioning—at the Ardmore First Methodist Church's Colvert Ministry Center. We want to encourage all community members to come celebrate what God is doing in our Emmaus Community during these special events, set for these final two trainings.

CANDIDATE & SPONSOR APPLICATIONS

WE NEED PILGRIMS!! Applications for Pilgrims/Sponsors are **due September 9th**. Please start mailing your applications. We are ready and eager!

We are also receiving applications that are incomplete. Here are the requirements, prior to the submission of an application:

1. **Signature of Candidate Applicant**
2. **Signature of current candidate's Pastor**
3. **Deposit amount of \$125 (check or cash)**
4. **Completed "Sponsor Sheet"**
5. **Sponsor's signature**

An application that is received without the above requirements is not considered submitted. Please understand that as a Sponsor, you are responsible for obtaining the Candidate Application (with all signatures) from your Candidate and then submitting that application with your sponsor application and payment (minimum deposit amount—paid by candidate, church, or whomever), to the Registrar. The candidate should not be submitting any form directly to the Registrar, as this is reserved for the Sponsor.

If you have any questions, please contact any Board Member or Judy Roberts at muchhuntin@hotmail.com or 580-504-7924.

SPONSORSHIP: The Most Important Job of All

Most communities take sponsorship for granted: the members assume that everyone knows the how and why of sponsorship. Often communities fail to discuss sponsorship except in reference to the number of participants signed up for a walk. Yet sponsorship is the most important job of Emmaus, and all members take responsibility for this area of ministry. It involves more than simply signing up people. The quality of sponsorship influences the participants, the health of the Emmaus movement, and the churches affected by the movement.

Qualities of a good sponsorship:

1. Good sponsorship uses discernment in inviting or recruiting participants. Good sponsors do not set out simply to recruit anyone with a willingness to attend.
2. Good sponsorship is the first act of agape before an Emmaus walk ever begins.
3. Good sponsorship undergirds the Emmaus Walk with sacrificial love on behalf of each participant and provides personal acts of agape which includes prayer, agape letters, supportive presence at Candlelight and Closing, and follow-up.
4. Good sponsorship offers a strong link to the participants' Fourth Day experience after each event. Sponsors stand ready to answer participants' questions, be faithful friends, and provide perspective. Sponsors guide participants to reunion groups, encourage them to revitalize their involvement in their churches and church groups, and help them sponsor others to attend an Emmaus Walk.
5. Good sponsorship grounds a healthy, effective Emmaus movement that fulfills its true purpose: continued faith formation of the participants, the development of Christian leaders, and the renewal of the church in ministry.

Why do we sponsor? What is our aim?

A sponsor does not aim to "get all my friends to go," to fill up the walk roster, to fix people's problems, or to reproduce our experience in others. Rather, the sponsor aims for the pilgrim to:

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1. Experience the accepting and healing grace of God through Christian community,
2. Realize that they are precious to God and are on this earth for a holy purpose,
3. Discuss with nonjudgmental peers and mature Christians their questions and struggles,
4. Hear anew the gospel of God's love in Jesus Christ and the basics of Christian faith and life,
5. Make friends with others who share the faith and will support one another in living as Christians,
6. Develop relationships with other Christians, relationships that might extend beyond the three days,
7. Strengthen their decision to follow Jesus.
8. Better prepare themselves to live as Christian witnesses in home, school, church, and community,
9. Learn what goes into building their lives and relationships on a solid foundation,
10. Bring new vitality to the church upon returning,
11. Inspire to sponsor others
12. Energize the body of Christ whose hearts are on fire with the love of Christ.

Sponsorship is the most important job of all and the first act of agape. Please prayerfully consider sponsoring a pilgrim for the September walks. Men's Walk is September 21-24, 2023. Troy Williams is the Lay Director and Randal Richards is the Spiritual Director. Women's Walk is September 28 – October 1. Kenna Johnson is the Lay Director and Sharon Hale is the Spiritual Director. There is an application process. The application can be found on our website at Crosspointemmaus.org and select forms "Candidate & Sponsor Application". The application will need to be completed by you, the sponsor, and the pilgrim. Complete and mail all pages of the application to Judy Roberts. Judy's information is listed on the form. The fee is \$250 per pilgrim and a pre-registration deposit of \$125 is required. Please submit the application no later than two weeks prior to the walk or September 9th. Your assistance and sponsorship is appreciated.

Patty Tickel, Community Lay Director

CANDIDATE & SPONSOR SCHOLARSHIPS

Applications for Pilgrim and Volunteers are very limited at this time. If you, as a volunteer, or your pilgrim needs assistance in paying the camp fee, please submit an application with half the fee attached. *All payments for pilgrims and team members will not be deposited until after the closing of the Women's Walk.* Please, also consider a fundraiser or asking your church/congregation, family, and friends for donations.

Scholarships will be processed as first come, first serve, due to the limitation. If you have any questions, please contact Melissa Grace at melissagrace52@gmail.com or 580-465-9040.

If you would like to donate to our scholarship fund, please use the QR code on the back of this newsletter or contact Jerold Philips at 580-220-2274.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!

September 9
4:00 PM

Commissioning & Gathering
Ardmore FMC's Colvert Ministry Center
Potluck dinner — please bring a dish or dessert.
We will begin with Team Commissioning and
Worship, then have food and fellowship.

Send-Off @ 7:00pm
Men's - Sept 21, Women's - Sept 28

Candlelight @ 8:00pm
Men's - Sept 23, Women's - Sept 30

Closing @ 4:00pm
Men's - Sept 24, Women's - Oct 1

Fourth Day @ 6:00pm
October 3
Ardmore FMC's Colvert Ministry Center

PAYPAL DONATIONS & FEE PAYMENTS

Do you know that you can donate monetarily to our Community through PayPal? You may use this feature to pay team and candidate fees, or donate for any designated purpose (snack agape, scholarship fund, general fund, etc). You may also choose to setup reoccurring donations. Visit our website and click on "Donate," or login to your own PayPal account and send your donation to "info@crosspointemmaus.org." Please specify what the donation or payment is intended for, *in comments/purpose*. You may also scan the QR Code to donate on a mobile device.



On the Road to Emmaus

13 Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. 14 They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. 15 As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; 16 but they were kept from recognizing him.

28 As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going farther. 29 But they urged him strongly, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them. 30 When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. 31 Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. 32 They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"

—Luke 24: 13-16, 28-32

Note: If you have anything to add to the next quarterly Newsletter, send your copy or photos to info@crosspointemmaus.org. All submissions will be subject to editing.

Most members of the Cross Point Emmaus Community receive Newsletters and information by email. Please ask your Emmaus friends if they receive the Newsletter. We do not want to accidentally omit anyone.

If you use gmail, please check your "Promotions" folder for our emails, or you may select "all mail" to see all inbox folder contents.



WALK TO

EMMAUS

THE UPPER ROOM®